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CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Cottbus Airfield

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EVALUATION                      PLACE OBTAINED                     

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DATE OF CONTENT                     DATE OBTAINED                      DATE PREPARED 16 July 1954

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REFERENCES                     PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)                     

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REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED

1. Air activity observed at Cottbus airfield between 11 and 30 June 1954 involved Yak-18s and Yak-11s which mainly practiced formation flying in elements of two, flights of three and formations of four, in addition to local individual flights. In the beginning, the intervals and distances between the individual aircraft of the formations were very large. On 29 June, a formation flight by Yak-18s was made with an interval of only approximately on wingspan between the individual aircraft. On this day, 9 Yak-11s were parked in front of a hangar and 8 Yak-18s at the take-off point;
2. During the second half of June, the red obstacle lights at the field were replaced by neon tubes. No stationary radio installations were observed at the field and in its surroundings. Only during air activity, a radio truck with an antenna mast was observed near the take-off point.
3. By order of a governmental headquarters, General Kessler of the VPL in Cottbus had to be called up. On this occasion, the following confidential telephone numbers were learned: Funker Kaserne: 8/1931 and General Kessler: 1801.

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5. During the noon hours on 23 June, there was no air activity. Twelve single-engine aircraft were parked near the hangars and 8 single-engine aircraft of another type were seen in the eastern section of the field. The former aircraft were fitted with radial engines with even engine cowling, long cabin roof, steering at the outersides of the landing gear, and red propeller hubs. The latter aircraft were also fitted with a radial engine, the cylinders of which made bulges in the engine cowling.

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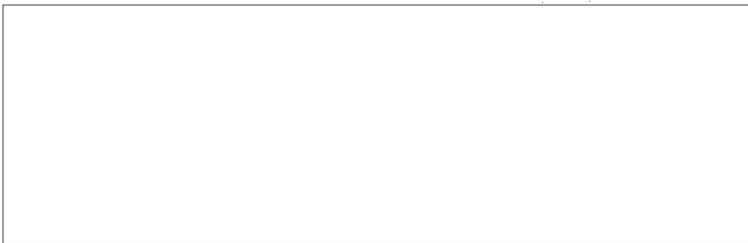
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 Comment: The Aeroclub at Cottbus airfield conducts training activity with Yak-11s and Yak-18s along the usual pattern.

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